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Letter dated 26 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I write this letter to condemn the terrorist bomb attacks that took place in the Republic of Yemen last week. The first attack was committed in Sayoun, Yemen, on 15 March 2009 on a group of tourists from the Republic of Korea. Four nationals of the Republic of Korea lost their lives, and three were injured as a result of this heinous act of terrorism against innocent civilians. I have enclosed for your reference a copy of the statement by the Spokesperson and Deputy Minister for Public Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea regarding this incident (see annex). The next day, the authorities of Yemen confirmed that this incident was a suicide bombing carried out by a teenage bomber.

On 18 March, yet another suicide bomb attack took place, this time on a convoy of vehicles carrying officials of the Republic of Korea and the bereaved families of the victims of the 15 March attack on their way to Sana'a Airport. Fortunately, there were no casualties except for the suicide bomber himself; however, in light of the damage caused to the vehicles attacked, serious harm could have been caused to the lives of the group if the suicide bombing had delivered its intended effects.

I wish to reiterate in the strongest terms the deep shock and anger of the Government and citizens of the Republic of Korea at these inhuman acts of terrorism. The Government of the Republic of Korea is currently cooperating with the Government of Yemen in the course of the relevant investigations. The Government of the Republic of Korea appreciates the efforts of the Government of Yemen in fighting terrorism and will continue to render to the Government of Yemen all cooperation necessary to make certain that those responsible are brought to justice. Furthermore, the Government of the Republic of Korea requests the international community to support the Government of Yemen financially and technically to further fight terrorism.

The Government of the Republic of Korea will take every possible measure to protect the security of its citizens from the increasing threat of terrorism. The

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international community must stand together and make it absolutely clear that such horrendous acts will not be tolerated or go unpunished. I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 99.

(*Signed*) **Park** In-kook
Permanent Representative

Annex to the letter dated 26 March 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly

Statement dated 17 March 2009 by the Spokesperson and Deputy Minister for Public Relations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea regarding the terrorist bombing against Korean tourists in Yemen

1. The Government of the Republic of Korea expresses its deep shock and anger at the fact that the attack against tourists from the Republic of Korea that occurred in Sayoun, Yemen, on 15 March 2009 was a terrorist bombing. The Government of the Republic of Korea strongly denounces this heinous act of terrorism.

2. The Government of the Republic of Korea once again extends its sincere condolences to the victims and bereaved families. The Government of the Republic of Korea will cooperate closely with the Government of the Republic of Yemen in investigating and dealing with this act of terror.

3. It is the firm position of the Government of the Republic of Korea that terrorism is an inhuman crime which cannot by justified under any circumstances and that terrorism must be eradicated. In this context, the Republic of Korea has actively participated in the international community's endeavours, in which the United Nations plays a leading role, to prevent and suppress international terrorism.

4. The Government of the Republic of Korea will redouble its efforts to prevent and suppress international terrorism in order to ensure the security of the State and safety of citizens, continuing to cooperate closely with the international community to that end.